

Appl. No. 10/045,578
Amdt. Dated May 12, 2005
Reply to Office Action of March 18, 2005

Attorney Docket No. 81747.0212
Customer No.: 26021

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 18, 2005,. Claims 1-18 remain in this application. Claims 1, 8, and 16 are the independent Claims. It is believed that no new matter is involved in the amendments or arguments presented herein. Reconsideration and entrance of the amendment in the application are respectfully requested.

Art-Based Rejections

Claims 1, 7-8, 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over publication "OLE for Retail POS – Application Programmer's Guide" (Epson). Moreover, Claims 2-6, 9-13, and 15-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Epson in view of U.S. Patent No. No. 6,741,558 (Gresham). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections and submits that the claims herein are patentable in light of the clarifying amendments above and the arguments below.

The Epson et al. Reference

Epson is directed to OLE for retail POS. In particular, Epson provides guidance to application developers and hardware providers relating to OPOS controls. The OPOS control has a Control Object and a Service Object. (*See, Epson; Page 11*). According to Epson, Service Object passes information to the Control Object by reporting, or firing, events. There are five types of events, including StatusUpdateEvent which reports a change in device's status. (*See, Epson; Pages 11 and 22*).

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The Gresham Reference

Gresham is directed to interface circuit in Open Telecom Platform (OTP) communication. In particular, Gresham provides a detector in an interface circuit for signaling the occurrence of unexpected asynchronous events. (*See, Gresham; Col. 1, lines 6-11; Col. 1, lines 29-33*).

The Claims are Patentable Over the Cited References

The present application is generally directed to providing a device status monitoring system and method using an OPOS Service Object to continuously record status change data.

As defined by independent Claim 1, a device status monitoring system in a data processing system is provided. The data processing system including a peripheral device connected to a host computer. The host computer runs an operating system and an application capable of controlling the peripheral device. The host computer includes a device control system for controlling the peripheral device through the operating system. The device control system includes a first object providing a device class interface to the application and a second object providing an interface for the peripheral device to the first object. The device status monitoring system has a status change data recording unit in the second object for recording status change data indicating a change in a device status to a status change recording unit.

The applied reference of record fails to teach or suggest the above features of the claims of the present invention. In particular, Epson fails to disclose or suggest "a status change data recording unit in the second object for recording status change data indicating a change in a device status to a status change recording unit." as required by independent Claim 1.

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The Examiner recognized the above deficiency of Epson. (*See, Office Action; Page 3, Para. 6*). Accordingly, Examiner asserted Epson disclosed similar functionality as the present invention and obviousness for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the applied reference to include functional unit to carry out the functionalities of present invention. (*See, Office Action; Page 3, Para. 7*). Applicant respectfully traverses the assertion.

As shown above, Epson is directly toward providing guidance to application developers and hardware providers relating to OPOS controls. In particular, Epson discloses Service Object reporting devices status changes to the Control Object via the firing of the StatusUpdateEvent. Not all device status changes are reported. Each device class specifies the status changes that cause it to fire the event. (*See, Epson; Page 17, Status Model*). In contrast, the status change data recording unit provided by the present invention has the capability to record all changes of device status. (*See, Specification; Page 3, lines 12-17; Page 12, lines 14-20*). Accordingly the applied Epson reference cannot be said to teach or suggest features required in independent Claim 1.

Moreover, Epson discloses there five types of events including the aforementioned StatusUpdateEvent. The Service Object stores all events, including those that are not device status change events, in order of occurrence. The events are reported, or fired, to the Control Object in a strict first in, first out order. (*See, Epson; Page 22, EVENTS*). In contrast, the status change recording unit of present invention stores device status change data. The status change recording unit of present invention is accessible to the Control Object without the order requirement. Accordingly the applied Epson reference cannot be said to render obvious independent Claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

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The ancillary Gresham reference is not seen to remedy the above deficiency as is Epson. Since the applied references fail to disclose, teach, or suggest the above features recited in independent Claim 1, the reference cannot be said to anticipate nor render obvious the invention which is the subject matter of independent Claim 1.

Accordingly, independent Claim is in condition of allowance and such allowance is respectfully requested. Independent Claims 8 and 16 are allowable for at least the same foregoing reasons. The remaining claims depend either directly or indirectly from independent Claims 1, 8, and 16 and recite additional features of the invention which are neither disclosed nor fairly suggested by the applied references and are therefore also believed to be in condition for allowance.

The remaining claims depend either directly or indirectly from amended independent Claims 1, 8, 16 and recite additional features of the invention which are neither disclosed nor fairly suggested by the applied references and are therefore also believed to be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6809 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

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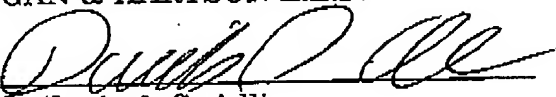
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Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: May 12, 2005

By:



Dariush G. Adli
Registration No. 51,386
Attorney for Applicant(s)

500 South Grand Avenue, Suite 1900
Los Angeles, California 90071
Phone: 213-337-6700
Fax: 213-337-6701